

IFWG Task #2

Draft Outline for Workshop #1

Discussion of Forest Practices and Programs

Workshop purpose: Provide a basic understanding of how the current regulatory process 1) contributes to the meeting the 5mmt Co2 sequestration target from the AB 32 Scoping Plan; and 2) addresses “sustainability” with regard to biomass harvesting.

1. INTRODUCTION: [Crawford Tuttle, George Gentry]

- Review purpose (see above)
- Explain workshop approach
 - Overview of FPA (and NFMA...) and context with other environmental laws
 - Review of rules and voluntary programs most directly related to maintenance and enhancement of carbon stocks and to fuels reduction activities that generate biomass.
 - Processes for developing projects and securing permits
 - Agency review and administration processes
 - Data collection and reporting processes

2. OVERVIEW OF FPA (Board of Forestry) [Federal laws by (US Forest Service)]

- Relationship of the FPA and FPRs to CEQA and other laws– Functional Equivalent Process & Secretary designation
 - CEQA – functional equivalent
 - Federal laws, eg CWA, ESA. 404
 - State laws, eg Porter Cologne, SMARA
- BOF rulemaking process

3. RULES FOR MAINTAINING AND INCREASING TIMBER VOLUMES (Carbon)

- What is and is not covered by the FPR and FPR (timberland v. forestland) [Bill Snyder]
 - Add some data on acreage covered and covered
 - Timberland v. Forestland
 - Commercial Purposes.
- How the rules contribute to maintenance of carbon stocks? [Bill Snyder]
 - Maximum Sustained Yield rules
 - Timber harvest planning options
 - Silvicultural rules function to maintain growth and stocking
 - Timberland conversion review
- Landowner Presentation on Preparation, review, and outcome of Option A/SYP

4. RULES FOCUSED ON FUELS REDUCTION AND BIOMASS OPERATIONS

- Exemption types
 - Emergency Notices
 - Administration/Enforcement

- Prevention – sustained removal 4290
- How the rules provide for sustainability of ecosystem functions
 - FPR protections for roads, Watercourse Protection, Wildlife, Cultural Resources etc.

Discussion

5. FPA ANALYSIS PROCESS AND ADMINISTRATION – [Department Staff]

- Outline THP process to the point where the THP is approved by the Director's designee (review team, approval/disapproval, appeals, deferral to the Board for regulatory action)
- Role of parties to a plan
 - Landowner
 - RPF
 - Timber Operators
- Outline steps in the operational life and completion of a plan
 - Operational inspections,
 - Completion reports,
 - Stocking reports,
- Plan Review process -
 - CAL FIRE review process
 - Interagency review teams
 - PHIs, post harvest inspections, etc
- Overview of Enforcement –
 - Inspection program overview
 - Enforcement policies
 - Penalty options (violations, license action, criminal prosecution, civil penalties, Injunctive relief, etc.)
 - Overview of statistics maintained
- Review types of exemptions and emergency operations:
 - Exemption types
 - Emergency Notices

6. DATA COLLECTION AND REPORTING

- Forest Practices data bases
- Information in Option A's
- GIS data

7. OTHER voluntary programs which affect carbon storage and sustainability

- Voluntary Programs and associated regulations:
 - CFIP
 - VMP
 - Forest Legacy
 - Urban Forestry

Discussion

HOLDING PLACE FOR PRESENTATIONS ON USFS / FEDERAL LAWS, PLANNING PROCESSES AND IMPLEMENTATION PROCEDURES